श्री सभापति: इस क्वेश्चन को मैं डैफर करता हूं।....(व्यवधान) मैंने बताया कि मैं इस क्वेश्चन के जवाब को डैफर करता हूं। ...(व्यवधान)

SHRI JIBON ROY: There should be some change in the law or in the system.

श्री सभापति: मैं इसको डैफर करता हूं। माननीय मंत्री महोदय तैयार होकर आएंगे इन क्वेश्चंस के लाइट में।

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: We Wecome it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

OBCs of other States

*69. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the OBCs of other States are not treated as Other Backward Classes in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government would instruct the Delhi Government to provide all the facilities to OBCs of other States?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to existing Government instructions, the Other Backward Class person on migration from the State/UT of his origin to another State/ UT where his caste is not in the OBC list is entitled to the concessions/ benefits admissible to the OBCs from the State of his origin, but he will not be eligible for the concessions/benefits of the State to which he has migrated.

(c) No Sir, the instructions mentioned in part (b) covers all the State Governments/Union Territories including the NCT of Delhi.

Allocation for school education

*70. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made for school education during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that education cess is being collected;

(c) if so, the amount collected so far and spent on education, State-wise;

(d) whether it is a fact that in rural and far-flung areas, there is either no school or where these exist, they lack proper infrastructure and teaching staff; and

(e) if so, the measures contemplated to strengthen the school education system in the country, particularly in the deficient areas?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) State-wise allocations are not made under the various schemes administered by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education and the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy. Grants are, however, released to State Governments/Implementation Societies under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes/projects keeping in view the proposals received, availability of resources and progress of utilization of funds earlier released under each scheme. The Annual Plan Outlay for School Education during the last three years is indicated below:—

(Rupees in Crores)

Year	Plan Outlay for Elementary Education	Plan Outlay for Secondary Education	Total
2001-02	3800.00	643.70	4443.70
2002-03	4667.00	719.00	5386.00
2003-04	4667.00	669.00	5336.00

The Plan outlay for the current year (2004-2005) is Rs. 5750.00 crore for Elementary Education and Rs. 693.00 crore for Secondary Education. In addition, an amount of Rs. 2000 crore for Elementary Education and Rs. 63 crore for Secondary Education is being allocated during 2004-05 for the National Common Minimum Programme related schemes.

A cess of 2 per cent has been levied by Government on central taxes and is expected to yield about Rs. 4000-5000 crore in a full year. The amount collected as cess will be earmarked for elementary education and the mid-day meal scheme.

School education is primarily the concern of the State Governments. However, a number of schemes have been formulated by the Central Government for development of school education. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is an effort to universalize elementary education by community ownership of the school system and to provide quality basic education all over the country. The scheme gives special focus for the education of girls, scheduled castes and tribal children. The scheme also seeks to provide at least a 1:40 teacher-pupil ratio with at least 50 per cent of teachers as women. In addition to new schools, classrooms and infrastructural support the scheme, under its Education Guarantee Scheme/ Alternative and Innovative Education (EGS/AIE) component, provides for alternative schools to cover unserved habitations. A National Programme of Nutritional Support for Primary Education (commonly known as the Mid-day Meal Scheme) has been launched for improving student attendance while raising their nutritional standard. As far as the Central Government is concerned, for the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels, Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas have been set up in different parts of the country. The scheme of Vocalionalisation of Secondary Education is being revised to prepare students for identified occupations where self or wage employment opportunities are available.

Minarets of Taj Mahal

*71. SHRI R.P. GOENKA:
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the four minarets of the Taj Mahal at Agra have been tilting for many years;

(b) if so, the details of the surveys made from time to time to assess the structural safety of the Taj and its minarets;

(c) the action taken or being taken to overcome any threat to the world heritage monument;

(d) whether it is also a fact the U.N.E.S.C.O. has also expressed concern on the likely damage to the Taj; and

(e) if so, the results of any coordination established with the World Heritage Centre at Paris?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): **(a) No, Sir.**